

REMARKS

The first Office action mailed on 5 October 2004 (Paper No. 20040929) has been carefully considered. Allowance of claims 1 thru 25 and 35 thru 63 as set forth in paragraph 8 of the Office action is appreciated.

The specification and Abstract are being amended to correct minor errors and improve form. Claims 30 and 65 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1 thru 4, 17 thru 20, 23, 25, 26, 31 thru 33, 35, 36, 39, 41, 42, 44, 52 thru 64, 66 and 67 are being amended. Thus, claims 1 thru 29, 31 thru 64, 66 and 67 are pending in the application.

It should be noted that the allowed claims are being amended for the purpose only of improving their form. Thus, the scope of the allowed claims is not being changed, and those claims should still be allowable.

In paragraph 2 of the Office action, the Examiner states that a certified copy of the priority document has not been filed. Applicant disagrees with the Examiner, and respectfully requested the Commissioner, in our Petition filed on 18 October 2004, to acknowledge the timely filing and receipt of the certified priority document based upon the evidence set forth in that Petition. Applicant respectfully requests acknowledgment by the Examiner of the timely filing by the Applicant, and receipt by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, of a certified copy of the Korean priority document in the present application.

In paragraph 3 of the Office action, the Examiner objected to Figure 1 for not being labeled as "Prior Art". Applicant respectfully opposes this requirement for the reasons stated in the Petition filed on 18 October 2004, which reasons are incorporated into this Amendment by reference thereto. Thus, Applicant requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application however, Applicant filed corrected formal Figure 1 bearing a "Prior Art" legend on 5 November 2004. As stated in the Transmittal of corrected formal Figure 1, entry of corrected formal Figure 1 is respectfully requested to be contingent only upon final denial of Applicant's Petition filed on 18 October 2004.

In paragraph 5 of the Office action, the Examiner objected to claim 18 because of a typographical error. Claim 18 is being amended to correct the typographical error.

In paragraph 7 of the Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 26 thru 29, 34, 64, 66 and 67 under 35 U.S.C. §102 for alleged anticipation by Chisholm U.S. Patent No. 6,697,970. In paragraph 9 of the Office action, the Examiner objected to claims 30 thru 33 for dependency upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. For the reasons stated below, it is submitted that the invention recited in the claims, as now amended, is distinguishable from the prior art cited by the Examiner so as to preclude rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103.

The present invention generally relates to a network management system (NMS) and, in particular, to a system and method for storing alarm information generated from a network and transferring the alarm information to a plurality of alarm managers.

The alarm management process, which takes place in an alarm management host computer, provides an uncleared alarm table for storing alarm information generated from the network and not yet cleared, and a cleared alarm table for storing cleared alarm information. Alarm managers connected to the alarm management host computer provide respective listener tables. When an alarm is generated from the network, the alarm information is stored in the uncleared alarm table and, when the alarm is released, the alarm information is cleared from the uncleared alarm table and moved to the cleared alarm table. The alarm information is also stored in listener tables. The alarm managers read the alarm information from their listener tables and display it. Therefore, the load produced during searching for alarm information is distributed, thereby increasing the speed and efficiency of the alarm information search.

The primary reference cited by the Examiner is U.S. Patent No. 6,697,970 to Chisholm, entitled *GENERIC FAULT MANAGEMENT METHOD AND SYSTEM*, issued on February 24, 2004. Chisholm '970 discloses a generic fault management system and method for maintaining a list of all active alarms on a network as generated by managed resources (*e.g.* network elements) in a simple network management protocol (SNMP) environment. Active alarm tables are stored and maintained in management information bases (MIBs) associated with each of the managed resources by a distributed management component (such as by an element management system (EMS)-MIB and/or a network

management station (NMS)-information store (IS)). The managed resources of the network experiencing the alarms do not need to conform to a particular alarm content or behavior. The network can be supported on any SNMP system, including both the managed resources experiencing the alarms and any distributed management systems monitoring the managed resources. The active alarm tables can store any alarm that can be defined using the structure of a management information (SMI) syntax. The distributed management components can poll the active alarm tables after a disconnect, or after discovery of new network elements (NE), to maintain a current active alarm list across the entire network.

The present invention differs from the cited prior art by virtue of the fact that Chisholm '970 does not disclose a plurality of listener tables including a first listener table corresponding to a first alarm manager, each listener table having a unique name listed in a broadcasting list data table. The patentability of this distinction is recognized by the Examiner by virtue of the indication, in the Office action, that independent claims 1, 35 and 41 are allowable, and that dependent claims 30 and 65 recite allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, rejected independent claims 26 and 64 are being amended to include the recitations contained in dependent claims 30 and 65, respectively, which are being canceled. Therefore, allowance of independent claims 26 and 64 (and their associated dependent claims) should now be forthcoming.

In addition, rejected independent claim 66 is being amended to recite the invention with more particularity, and specifically to include recitations similar to those found in allowed independent claims 1, 35 and 41, and allowable dependent claims 30 and 65. Thus, claim 66 now recites that, when an alarm event is generated in the network, first alarm information is written from an uncleared alarm table into the listener data tables corresponding to the unique names registered on the broadcasting list data table (containing the unique names of listener data tables corresponding to alarm managers detected to be operating normally). Claim 66 further recites that the first alarm information from the listener data tables is then read and displayed by the alarm managers detected to be operating normally.

As mentioned above, the language of claim 66 in its entirety, including the amended language in the last two paragraphs of the claim, is very similar or almost identical to corresponding language found in allowed independent claims 1, 35 and 41, as well as in allowable dependent claims 30 and 65. Therefore, independent claim 64 and dependent claim 65 should now be allowed for the same reasons that independent claims 1, 35 and 41 have been allowed, and that dependent claims 30 and 65 have been determined to be allowable.


Finally, Figure 3 is being amended to change the word “make” to “create” (in steps S110 and S120) so as to be consistent with terminology in the specification and claims, while Figure 5 is being amended to insert reference numerals 222, 250 and “260, 261 or 262”, thereby rendering the figure consistent with the other figures (*e.g.*, Figure 2) and with the specification. No “new matter” has been added. Entry of the corrected formal

Figures 3 and 5, and confirmation of the entry in writing in the next Office action, are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance, and early issuance thereof is solicited. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

No fee is incurred by this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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